

of course, the singer was loudly applauded—as he deserved to be.

Signor Bogagnoli greatly added to his already high reputation in Hongkong by a really splendid impersonation of the hero, *Fernando*, his acting and singing, in the last act especially, displaying great power. The faults in the tenor's singing, alluded to in former criticisms, namely a slight harshness in tone, and a tendency at times to sing flat, were occasionally noticeable on Saturday night; but it would be hypercritical to allude in detail to such minor drawbacks in a performance conspicuous throughout for its general excellence.

The minor rôles were differently filled, that of *Inez* being omitted altogether. We have already said the question, where is Signora Perelli, seconda donna comprimaria, but without eliciting any definite information respecting the missing artist: in fact, nobody appears to know whether the lady is indisposed, or is merely a myth, a performer on paper. Be that as it may, it cannot be denied that operas are wanted of a great deal of their attractiveness, and their completeness by the wholesale omission of characters, who are absolutely necessary if the dramatic effects of the representations are to be considered of any material importance.

The members of the orchestra, under Signor Vasta's master hand, were as usual in perfect harmony, and largely contributed to the general success of the performance. The hood of the prompter's box, to which we have already referred on two previous occasions, had not been replaced, and in consequence the prompter's voice was frequently heard all over the house, destroying the dramatic illusion which is invariably associated with all representations on the lyric stage. With reference to this subject we have received a letter from Signor Torriani, the Company's prompter, to which some allusion may properly be made here. We are not aware of having reproached the prompter for speaking in too loud a voice, as Signor Torriani asserts, but merely stated that, owing to the removal of the hood which previously covered the prompter's box, and hid that functionary from public view, the prompting was more unpleasantly apparent all over the house than it would have been, had the hood of the box not been removed. As a matter of fact, we actually praised Signor Torriani for the careful manner in which he performed his arduous duties, as a reference to our notice of "Ernani" will amply testify. Signor Torriani states that the alteration in the prompter's box, if made, was made at the request of the artists, or to use his own words, "Si cela a été fait, c'est sur la demande des artistes, qui n'ont rien de plus simple à leur dire, que de leur demander un peu plus." We found no fault with the prompting until the hood of the box was removed, and we really cannot see how the hood could affect the artists on the stage other than beneficially, as the sound of the prompter's voice was confined to the stage, or at least in a great measure prevented from travelling throughout the auditorium, as has been the case since the alteration complained of was made. The acoustic principles of the City Hall Theatre are not of the first class, nor is the building constructed in the most improved style of scientific architecture, but these matters have little to do with the question at issue. Replace the hood of the box, and the cause for complaint is removed. Could anything be simpler than that? Signor Torriani's defence that the prompter's boxes in La Scala, Milan, and the opera houses of St. Petersburg, Paris, London, &c., have never a covering for operative performance, only for comedies, tragedies, &c., will not hold water. In no opera house in the world is the prompter placed in the ridiculous position occupied by Signor Torriani during the last three performances, no matter whether opera, comedy, or tragedy is being performed, as scores of regular habitués of the opera in nearly all the capitals of Europe, at present in Hongkong, can prove. Our references to the prompter's "well-shaped head" and "dulcet tones" was simple bodinage, which the Signor apparently does not understand. Let us however, better thanking him for his courteous letter, assure him that our pleasure was not meant to give offence—and further that we give the attention of Signor Cagli to the unwise alteration made in the prompter's box at the special request of a very powerful and influential section of the Company's patrons.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The next *American Mail* may be expected to arrive here tomorrow, the 7th inst., by the O. & C. steamer *Gaelic*, which brings San Francisco dates to the 4th Nov. The following *American Mail* may be expected to arrive here on about the 14th Dec. by the O. & C. steamer *Decatur*, which brings San Francisco dates up to the 10th November. The next *French Mail* may be expected to arrive here by the M. M. steamer *Orin*, on Wednesday, the 5th inst. She brings London dates to 29th Oct.

The next *European Mail* may be expected to arrive here on about the 11th inst. Saturday next, by the P. & O. steamer *Minerva*, which left Singapore at 8 a.m. on the 4th Dec. She brings London dates to the 5th ult.

The *French Mail* steamer *Capitaine St. James* at 7 o'clock on Saturday evening.

Masses Goo, R. Stevens & Co. inform us that the steamer *Thales* left Newcastle (N.S.W.) on Saturday (4th inst.) for Hongkong via Paris.

The steamer *Charles Townsend* *Hoch*, which arrived last night, from Haiphong, has brought four Annamite children, three girls and one boy, who were smuggled on board by two Chinamen sailors. They were handed over to the Water Police on their arrival this morning, and taken on board the "Chop." The two men who brought them over were taken before the Police Magistrate this morning, charged with bringing the children into the Colony with intent to sell them, and the case has been remanded, as will be seen from our police intelligence.

Captain Bradley of the S. S. *Charles Townsend* took up his last Haiphong December 2nd, with fresh E.N.E. winds across the Gulf of Tonquin. December 3rd, fresh breeze from East with heavy sea. At 4.30 a.m. heaved lead and found ten fathoms; ceased ship till daylight. At 6.15 made Gupe Canal (N.W. entrance to the Straits of Malacca), S.E. about 5 miles, also observed the Chinese steamer *Kiang Chi* apparently ashore. Proceeded slowly towards her, keeping the lead going, and when in six fathoms made signals enquiring what was the matter, and if she wanted any assistance. She replied with a negative signal (blue pennant), and we proceeded through the Straits. At 8 a.m. came on foggy, and desisting with rain, which weather was experienced until 10 p.m.; from thence to Ladrones strong N.E. monsoon with tremendous high sea, shipping large amount of water on deck. Arrived at midnight on the 5th inst.

An inquest was held at 3.30 this afternoon at the Government Civil Hospital, by the Acting Coroner, G. S. Northcote, Esq., and a Jury consisting of Messrs A. Jorge, A. Colpe, and J. V. de Jesus, on the body of a Chinese male, 17 years of age, which was found in the harbour this morning, near the Canton steamer wharf, by P. O. 202.

Dr. Marques gave evidence to the effect that the body was brought to the Hospital this morning in an advanced stage of decomposition; no marks of violence appeared on the body, and death appeared to have been caused by drowning.

Hong a Hon, father of the deceased, whose name he said was Hong a Hon, said that he was a stevedore on board the *Cum Wong Fat* junk, and that deceased had been a stevedore on the same vessel. On the morning of the 2nd inst., at about 4.30 o'clock, witness was down below the junk being then anchored opposite the Harbour Master's Office, when he heard a splash in the water and on going on deck found his son missing. Witness had a sampan lowered, and searched for deceased, but could not find him. Deceased was unable to swim, and witness saw nothing more of him till he identified the body at the Hospital to-day. He supposed deceased had missed his footing and fallen off the junk into the water.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death by drowning.

SATURDAY'S *Gazette*, which was issued this afternoon, contains a notification inviting tenders for 80 suits of winter clothing for the Hongkong Artillery Volunteers.

The appointment of Mr C. F. A. Sangster, as acting Official Trustee under Ordinance No. 7 of 1873 (which we have already noted), is officially recorded.

A comparative return of the Valuation of Tenements in Hongkong and villages, for the last ten years, is also published in the *Gazette*. The document is interesting as showing the steady manner in which Hongkong maintains itself, notwithstanding the fluctuations in trade. The net valuation given, at 14 per cent for each year, except the year 1870 (which was at 10 per cent) is as follows:

1871...\$1,617,041 1875...\$1,588,828
1872...1,676,638 1876...1,633,151
1873...1,606,380 1877...1,654,277
1874...1,652,254 1878...1,789,024
1875...1,696,928 1880...1,968,409

The gradual increase in rentals is here shown most conclusively; but it will be unwise on the part of the Government to calculate too surely upon the rentals maintaining their present position. It is true that the number of tenements will increase in proportion before rents reach a fair average, and the Treasury will reap the benefit of such increase. A second comparative return for the three first quarters of 1871 and 1880 respectively, of House taxes paid by Europeans, &c., and Chinese, shows that, while in the balance 1871 was in favour of "Europeans, &c." (\$83,494.63, as against only \$55,242.49 paid by Chinese), the tables have now been turned, and the Chinese now pay \$112,533.69, against \$67,754.69 paid by Europeans, &c. There can be no question that the assets of society secured by a Hongkong Government (even under Sir John Hennessy) are converting our Colony into a Chinese-owned property; but this return is probably made and published to justify Governor Hennessy's unfriendly action towards the "Europeans, &c." and as an excuse if not a full defence of his entire policy as exemplified here during the last three years. The tendency, however, of the Chinese in every Colony is to obtain property in houses; and to trade where they can be safe from the pest of extortion and fraud. There is nothing abnormal in the case of Hongkong, as set forth in the returns now published.

A REPORT is current in Japan that Mr John Pitman has been appointed Financial Controller for the Empire of Japan. If this be true, Mr Pitman will have an opportunity of proving to the world that his abilities as a financier are superior to those of Gladstone or Sir Stafford Northcote, for Okuma, the Great (who, according to Governor Hennessy, far transcends these world-wise statesmen in financial matters) has utterly failed to place the finances of Japan upon a sound basis. Next to Governor Hennessy himself, there is no financier probably that would suit the present Japanese officials better than John Pitman. The *Hong Kong News* thus writes upon the proposed appointment:

A rumour of such a startling nature has reached us from Yokohama, that we feel compelled to prepare our readers before disclosing what might otherwise prove a serious shock to the nervous system. The rumour affects a gentleman who has been long and may be favourably known throughout the Far East. He is a man of a pronounced degree of integrity, generally winning in men of letters—a bolder mould, the gentleman in question has been naturally successful in attracting a wealth of affection and esteem accorded to few, as there are few gifted with his ability, and his preliminary remarks will be sufficient to cause the name of John Pitman, Esquire, to occur instinctively to our readers, if so, we are glad to find sterling merit and accomplishments so generally recognized. Although, perhaps, unfortunately occasionally, as every one engaged in commercial matters on an extended scale must inevitably be at some time or another, and prevented by the stupid presentiments of insurance companies from adopting to the extent he might have desired, an alleged which naturally commends itself to every cautious shipowner, it is universally admitted that Mr Pitman has developed an extraordinarily fine talent for dealing with financial matters in a comprehensive and statesmanlike manner. This has naturally earned for him the confidence of the Japanese Government, and we accordingly find his name inscribed in the directory as one of the officers of the Finance Department. The rumour we alluded to in effect, that Mr Pitman, on his return from visiting Sir John Hennessy in Hongkong, and Mr. Hart, the Inspector-General of Customs in China, will assume the practical control of Japanese finances. If this is true, and we only give the report for what it is worth, much or little—we feel constrained to congratulate the authorities upon the excellent choice of a guide to lead them out of their difficulties. It may be however—as reasons are eagerly sought for the fluctuations of kinsmen—that the recent rapid rise in the value of paper money was owing to the rumour of Mr Pitman's proposition, while the present depression, and the telegram followed an authoritative contradiction of the report. Time will tell.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE LESSERS OF THE OPIUM FARM.

On the Court assembling to-day, a conversation occurred which led to the late Mr. Pitman being made a defendant, and Mr. Holmes and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain strongly opposing the coercion of Ireland.

London, Nov. 17.—Yesterday, General Sir F. Roberts, in reply to the congratulatory address presented to him by the Corporation of Dover, said that he accepted it in behalf of the army and himself.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE read the note of the evidence of the messenger who went to get the document back; the note was to the effect that the witness was told by Ko Leung Yuen and Tam Yik Shan that the paper was destroyed as it had not been adhered to and was a defective letter. Mr. Hayley said the statement that the paper was destroyed was not true; the paper was here in Court. It was only at a late stage of this case that the agreement of the 23rd February was introduced at all, and the previous suit had been withdrawn altogether. The learned Counsel dealt on this point at some length, and with considerable emphasis, asking the Court from the facts before it on this point to judge of the bona fides or otherwise of the witness in which the witness had been sworn in the previous case wanted to get rid of the Yan Wo and tried to do this by withholding the agreement of February 23rd. As to the question of the costs being paid by the Chap Sing Tam Yik Shan he did not put any question on the subject because he did not believe for a moment he would speak the truth. The learned Counsel then referred to the telegram drafted by Pitman, and nominally sent by Ng Man Kwan to Han Hap, asking for authority to admit the Chap Sing to the management of the monopoly, and to show that he was then on for the administration of this firm. The learned Counsel then dealt with the various objections to the agreement of March 9th shown by the pleadings and set forth in the evidence of Tam Yik Shan. He laid particular stress on the omission from the position in the first case of all mention of the agreement of Feb. 23rd, and characterized said agreement as one as egregiously false as any petition could be that ever was presented in that Court or elsewhere. The assertion as to Han Hap monopolizing the management of the monopoly and finding only his friends posts in the management was a grave charge; unsupported by any particle of evidence. This was a charge that never should have been made, but no doubt it was intended to affect their Lordships' minds.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said that Mr. Pitman, in assuming the position of defendant, was not doing so for the sake of the interest, and a great deal of pain and a certain amount of resentment had been occasioned. Here was powerful assistance, powerful European or "Foreign" assistance, which was not to be taken for granted. The learned Counsel thought it was against these farmers, and that they were not to be taken for granted. Had this not been done the difficulty would not have been so great as it was. He did not wish to use any names, but he said the position was inexplicable. He should have been told that the Chap Sing they would present to the Court, then it should have been contradicted, but there was no attempt at a contradiction on that vital point, that he knew that the Chap Sing was being treated with which stood out like the hand writing on the wall, and was also uncontradicted. The Chap Sing offered \$50,000 to secure the completion of an agreement whereby they could connect themselves with the farm here. There was no evidence as to where that money was to go, it was to go to the Man Wo who admitted that he was to those who secured the combination.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said there was the evidence of Ng Man Kwan that it was to go to the Man Wo Fung.

Mr. Francis read his note of Ng Man Kwan's evidence, and said that the whole evidence was clearly enough that this money was to be paid to recruit the company for the large losses that had been met with up to the time the reconciliation was effected.

Mr. Hayley explained that he desired to make no reflection on any individual in this matter. The learned Counsel went on to remark that a few weeks after the plaintiffs had signed the agreement to admit the Yan Wo, they signed this letter to Mr. Pitman to prevent that agreement being carried out, and a short time after came to this Court saying that that agreement should not be carried out. The next question was—Were these proceedings not initiated and to a certain extent carried out by a certain company, the "Chap Sing," who desired to drive out the Man Wo, and in connection with Han Hap and the "Chap Sing" the first thing that happened after the matter got into Pitman's hands was the limitation of the suit on April 7th by the "Chap Sing" and those who would go to the Court, praying for a dissolution of the partnership, and then they came carrying out the agreement with the Yan Wo Company and so on. Before this suit was filed Ko Leung Yuen and Lai Tai U were born with the documents of 23rd Feb. from Han Hap, and they had failed to return it. They had been told that that document was destroyed, and they had had no reason to doubt it; Man Yik Shan said so, and he was not cross-examined, and no attempt was made to shake or contradict his evidence on that point.

CONCERN for the other side raising the point whether any witness had read and such a thing, Mr. Justice Bowen's answer was referred to and found to contain evidence from Han Hap's messenger to the

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Mr. Hayley did not care what the Attorney General thought. The inference on the two circumstances he had mentioned was inevitable; it was strong; that somebody was "doing his best" to carry out his instructions, doing his best to upset the agreement by concealing a document of the most vital importance.

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effect that he had been told so by those to whom he applied for the return of the document.

Mr. Hayley went on to say that there was very strong evidence that Mr. Pitman had *adde qde*, in the words of the letter of instructions he himself drafted, "done his best" to upset the agreement to which those who employed him had with the other directors signified their assent.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL did not think his learned friend was in a position to make such insinuations as he was now doing.

Mr. Hayley did not care what the Attorney General thought. The inference on the two circumstances he had mentioned was inevitable; it was strong; that somebody was "doing his best" to carry out his instructions, doing his best to upset the agreement by concealing a document of the most vital importance.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE read the note of the evidence of the messenger who went to get the document back; the note was to the effect that the witness was told by Ko Leung Yuen and Tam Yik Shan that the paper was destroyed as it had not been adhered to and was a defective letter. Mr. Hayley said the statement that the paper was destroyed was not true; the paper was here in Court. It was only at a late stage of this case that the agreement of the 23rd February was introduced at all, and the previous suit had been withdrawn altogether. The learned Counsel dealt on this point at some length, and with considerable emphasis, asking the Court from the facts before it on this point to judge of the bona fides or otherwise of the witness in which the witness had been sworn in the previous case wanted to get rid of the Yan Wo and tried to do this by withholding the agreement of February 23rd. As to the question of the costs being paid by the Chap Sing Tam Yik Shan he did not put any question on the subject because he did not believe for a moment he would speak the truth. The learned Counsel then referred to the telegram drafted by Pitman, and nominally sent by Ng Man Kwan to Han Hap, asking for authority to admit the Chap Sing to the management of the monopoly, and to show that he was then on for the administration of this firm. The learned Counsel then dealt with the various objections to the agreement of March 9th shown by the pleadings and set forth in the evidence of Tam Yik Shan. He laid particular stress on the omission from the position in the first case of all mention of the agreement of Feb. 23rd, and characterized said agreement as one as egregiously false as any petition could be that ever was presented in that Court or elsewhere. The assertion as to Han Hap monopolizing the management of the monopoly and finding only his friends posts in the management was a grave charge; unsupported by any particle of evidence. This was a charge that never should have been made, but no doubt it was intended to affect their Lordships' minds.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said that Mr. Pitman, in assuming the position of defendant, was not doing so for the sake of the interest, and a great deal of pain and a certain amount of resentment had been occasioned. Here was powerful assistance, powerful European or "Foreign" assistance, which was not to be taken for granted. The learned Counsel thought it was against these farmers, and that they were not to be taken for granted. Had this not been done the difficulty would not have been so great as it was. He did not wish to use any names, but he said the position was inexplicable. He should have been told that the Chap Sing they would present to the Court, then it should have been contradicted, but there was no attempt at a contradiction on that vital point, that he knew that the Chap Sing was being treated with which stood out like the hand writing on the wall, and was also uncontradicted. The Chap Sing offered \$50,000 to secure the completion of an agreement whereby they could connect themselves with the farm here. There was no evidence as to where that money was to go, it was to go to the Man Wo who admitted that he was to those who secured the combination.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said there was the evidence of Ng Man Kwan that it was to go to the Man Wo Fung.

Mr. Francis read his note of Ng Man Kwan's evidence, and said that the whole evidence was clearly enough that this money was to be paid to recruit the company for the large losses that had been met with up to the time the reconciliation was effected.

Mr. Hayley explained that he desired to make no reflection on any individual in this matter. The learned Counsel went on to remark that a few weeks after the plaintiffs had signed the agreement to admit the Yan Wo, they signed this letter to Mr. Pitman to prevent that agreement being carried out, and a short time after came to this Court saying that that agreement should not be carried out. The next question was—Were these proceedings not initiated and to a certain extent carried out by a certain company, the "Chap Sing," who desired to drive out the Man Wo, and in connection with Han Hap and the "Chap Sing" the first thing that happened after the matter got into Pitman's hands was the limitation of the suit on April 7th by the "Chap Sing" and those who would go to the Court, praying for a dissolution of the partnership, and then they came carrying out the agreement with the Yan Wo Company and so on. Before this suit was filed Ko Leung Yuen and Lai Tai U were born with the documents of 23rd Feb. from Han Hap, and they had failed to return it. They had been told that that document was destroyed, and they had had no reason to doubt it; Man Yik Shan said so, and he was not cross-examined, and no attempt was made to shake or contradict his evidence on that point.

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INSURANCES.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
(FIRE AND LIFE).

CAPITAL—Two Millions Sterling.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against the Risk of FIRE on Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on Goods on board Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be received, and transmitted to the Directors for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of proposals or any other information, apply to

ARNOLD, KARBURG & Co.,

Agents, Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1887.

YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

CAPITAL (Fully Paid-up).....£420,000

PERMANENT RESERVE.....£120,000

SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.....£260,000

TOTAL CAPITAL AND ACCUMULATIONS, 8th April, 1880.....£800,000

Directors.

F. B. FORBES, Esq., Chairman.

W. M. BOYD, Esq., Wm. MEYER, Esq., J. H. PINCKNEY, Esq., F. D. HIRSH, Esq., Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

Messrs RUSSELL & Co., Secretaries.

LONDON BRANCH:

Messrs BARNES BROTHERS & Co., Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq., Agent, 68 and 69, Cornhill.

Policies granted on Marine Risks to all parts of the World.

Subject to charge of 12 1/2 % for interest on shareholders' Capital, all the PROFITS of the UNDERWRITING BUSINESS are annually distributed among all Contributors of Business in proportion to the Premiums paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, October 1, 1880. 10081

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG.

Position of the Company at the close of the last financial year, the 30th April, 1880.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....£1,000,000.00

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....£300,000.00

RESERVE FUND.....£425,000.00

BALANCE UNPAID.....£70,278.43

DIVIDEND PAID TO SHAREHOLDERS.....20 % per Annum.

DIVIDEND PAID TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS OF BUSINESS, 25 % on the amount of their Contributions.

THE Company grants Policies on MARINE Risks to all parts of the World, payable at any of its Agencies.

Contributory Dividends are PAYABLE TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS OF BUSINESS WHETHER THEY ARE SHAREHOLDERS OR NOT.

B. GOLDSMITH, Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, August 13, 1880.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

Capital of the Company £1,000,000 Sterling of which is paid up £100,000

Reserve Fund upwards of £120,000

Annual Income £250,000

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, October 15, 1880.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

of His Majesty King George The First, A. D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant Insurances as follows—

Marine Department.

Policies at current rates payable either here, in London or at the principal Ports of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.

Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates. A discount of 20 % allowed.

Life Department.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding £5,000 at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

MELOHERS & Co., Agents, Royal Insurance Company, Hongkong, October 27, 1874.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Special Act of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1806.

CAPITAL £3,000,000.

THE Undersigned, Agents at Hongkong for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against FIRE, on Buildings, or on Merchandise in the same, at the usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20 per cent.

GILMAN & Co., Agents, Hongkong, July 8, 1875.

VISITORS' COLUMN.

We have instituted as an experiment a VISITORS' COLUMN, which we trust will prove successful, and be found useful. To it will be relegated from time to time such items of information, lists, tables and other intelligence as is considered likely to prove valuable to persons passing through the City, and in connection with we have opened a SELECT HOTEL AND BUSINESS DIRECTORY, applications for enrolment into which we are now ready to receive.

List of Public Buildings.

Government House, North of Public Gardens.

City Hall, Library (8,000 volumes) and Museum.—Free.

Public Gardens, a beautifully picturesque retreat and of great interest.

The Clock Tower, Queen's Road Central, in a line with Pedder's Wharf.

General Post Office, Hongkong Club, German Club, Supreme Court, &c., within a stone's throw.

Lustiano Club and Library, Shelley St.

Government Offices, the Secretariat, &c., near the Public Gardens.

St. John's Cathedral (Anglican), above the Parade Ground.

Roman Catholic Cathedral, Wellington Street.

Union Church, Elgin Street.

St. Peter's Seamen's Church, West Point.

St. Joseph's (R.C.) Church, Garden Road, near Kennedy Road.

Temperance Hall, specially adapted for sea-faring men, Queen's Road East.

Sailors' Home, West Point.

E. E. A. and China Telegraph Co., and the Great Northern Telegraph Co., Marine House, Queen's Road.

Masonic Hall, Zealand Street.

Victoria Recreation Club—Bath-house and Boat-house, &c.—Praya, beyond the Cricket Ground, beside the City Hall.

The Barracks and Naval and Military Store Departments lie to the eastward, and cover a large area.

Stores, Books, &c.

General Outfitter, Hosier, Tailor, &c.—T. N. DRISCOLL, 45 and 47, Queen's Road, by special appointment to H.E. the Governor.

Chronometers, Watches, Jewellery, Maps and Charts—G. FALCONER & Co., Queen's Road Central.

American and English Stores, Books, and specially selected Cigars.—MACLEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.

Guns, Rifles, Pistols, Ammunition, and Sportsman's Requisites of all descriptions.—WM. SCHMIDT & Co., Gun-makers, Eastern House of Beaconsfield Arcade.

Chair and Boat Hire.

LEGISLATED TARIFF OF FARES FOR CHAIRS, CHAIR BEARERS, AND BOATS, IN THE COLONY OF HONGKONG.

Chairs and Ordinary Pullage Boats.

Half hour, 10 cts. Hour, 20 cts. Three hours, 50 cts. Six hours, 70 cts. Day (from 6 to 6), One Dollar.

To VICTORIA PEAK.

Single Trip.

Four Coolies, \$1.00

Three Coolies, 0.85

Two Coolies, 0.70

Return (direct or by Pok-foo-lum).

Four Coolies, \$1.50

Three Coolies, 1.20

Two Coolies, 1.00

To VICTORIA GAP (TO LEVEL OF UMBRELLA SEAT).

Single Trip.

Four Coolies, \$0.60

Three Coolies, 0.50

Two Coolies, 0.40

Return (direct or by Pok-foo-lum).

Four Coolies, \$1.00

Three Coolies, 0.85

Two Coolies, 0.70

The Return Fare embraces a trip of not more than three hours.

For every hour or part of an hour above three hours, each Coolie will be entitled to an additional payment of 5 cents.

Day Trip (Peak).....\$0.75 each Coolie. (12 hours) Gap.....\$0.60 each Coolie.

Licensed Boaters (each).

Hour, 10 cents.

Half day, 35 cents.

Day, 50 cents.

BOAT AND COOLIE HIRE.

BOATS.

1st Class Cargo Boat of 8 or 900 \$3.00

1st Class Cargo Boat of 8 or 900 3.00

2nd Class Cargo Boat of 600 2.50

2nd Class Cargo Boat of 600 1.75

3rd Class Cargo Boat or Ha-kan Boat of 900 1.50

3rd Class Cargo Boat or Ha-kan Boat of 900 1.00

3rd Class Cargo Boat or Ha-kan Boat of 900 50

Sampans.

or Pullage Boats, per Day, \$1.00

Half-day Trip, 50

After 6 P.M.,10 cents extra.

Nothing in this Scale prevents private agreements.

JERRY COOLIES.

Scale of Hire for Street Coolies.

One Day,35 cents.

Half Day,20 "

Three Hours,12 "

One Hour,8 "

Half Hour,5 "

Nothing in the above Scale to affect private agreements.

HONGKONG RATES OF POSTAGE.

(Revised December 1st, 1880.)

In the following Statements and Tables the Rates are given in cents, and are, for Letters, per half ounce, for Books and Newspapers, per four ounces in weight.

Newspapers over four ounces in weight are charged as double, treble, &c., as the case may be, but such papers or packets or papers may be sent at Book Rate. Two Newspapers must not be folded together as one, nor must anything be inserted in them except bona fide Supplements. Printed matter may, however, be enclosed, if the whole be paid at Book Rate. Prices Current may be paid either as Newspapers or Books.

Commercial Papers signify such papers as, though Written by Hand, do not bear the character of an invoice or personal correspondence, such as letters, deeds, copied music, &c. The charge on them is the same as for books, but, whatever the weight of a packet containing any partially written paper, it will not be charged less than 5 cents.

The sender of any Registered Article may accompany it with a Return Receipt on paying an extra fee of 5 cents.

The limit of weight for Books and Commercial Papers to Foreign Post Offices is 4 lbs. Patterns for such offices are limited to 8 ounces, and must not exceed these dimensions: 8 inches by 4 inches by 2 inches.

N. K. means No Registration.

Countries of the Postal Union.

The Union may be taken to comprise Europe, most foreign possessions in Asia, Japan, W. Africa, Egypt, Mauritius, all N. America, Mexico, Salvador, Brazil, Peru, Venezuela, the Argentine Republic, Jamaica, Trinidad, Guiana, Honduras, Bermuda, Labuan, with all Danish, French, Netherlands, Portuguese and Spanish Colonies.

Countries not in the Union.—The chief countries not in the Union are the Australasian Group, Chili, and S. Africa.

Postage to Union Countries.

General Rates, by any route:

Letters, 10 cents per 1/2 oz.

Post Cards, 8 cents each.

Registration, 10 cents.

Newspapers, 2 cents each.

Books, Patterns and Comm. Papers, 2 cents per 2 oz.

There is no charge on redirected correspondence within the Postal Union.

Postage to Non-Union Countries.

Hawaiian Kingdom:

Letters, 10

Registration, None.

Newspapers, 2

Books & Patterns, 5

West Indies (Non Union), Bolivia, Chili, Costa Rica, Guatemala, New Granada, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, V. I.

Letters, 30

Registration, None.

Newspapers, 5

Books & Patterns, 5

Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, and Fiji, via Torres Straits, Letters, 10; Registration, 10; Newspapers, 2; Books and Patterns, 2; via Galle, Letters, 25; Registration, 10; Newspapers, 2; Books and Patterns, 2.

Natal, the Cape, St. Helena, and Ascension, via Aden, Letters, 25; Registration, 10; Newspapers, 2; Books and Patterns, 5.

* A small extra charge is made on delivery.

† There is registration to British W. India Islands, 10 cents.

‡ Registration via San Francisco, 10 cents.

§ Cannot be sent via San Francisco.

LOCAL POSTAGE.

Between Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai, and Macao in either direction.

Between any other two of the above places in either direction.

Between any other two of the above places in either direction.

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LOCAL POST.

1. Small Parcels may be sent by Post between any of the Post Offices in China or Japan, as well as to Macao, Fok-foi, Singapore, Penang, and Malacca. They must not exceed the following dimensions: 2 feet long, 1 foot broad, 1 foot deep, nor weigh more than 5 lbs. The postage is 20 cents per lb., which includes Registration except to Japan, to which country parcels are forwarded at Book Rates, Registry being optional. The parcels may be wholly closed if they bear this special endorsement, PARCEL, CONTAINING NO LETTERS, but any parcel may be opened by direction of the Postmaster General.

2. The following cannot be transmitted: Parcels insufficiently packed or protected, or liable to be crushed (as handboxes, &c.) Glass, Liquids, Explosives, Substances, Match, Gunpowder, Dynamite, Gun, Meat, Fish, Game, Fruit, Vegetables, or whatever is dangerous to the Mails, or likely to become offensive or injurious in transit.

3. Parcels as a general rule be forwarded by Private Ship, not by Contract Mail Packet. The Post Office reserves the right of selecting the opportunity for transmission, and of delaying delivery in case the number of parcels is such as to retard other correspondence. No responsibility is accepted with regard to any parcel, but the system of Registration will secure the sender against any but a very remote probability of loss.

4. The public are cautioned not to confound these facilities with a Parcel Post to Europe, &c., which does not exist.

It is necessary that the following rules be strictly observed:

No Letter or Packet, whether to be registered or not, can be received for Postage if it contains gold or silver money, jewels, precious articles, or anything that, as a general rule, is liable to Customs duties.

5. This Regulation prohibits the sending of Patterns of durable articles, unless the quantity sent be so small as to make the sample of no value.

3. The limits of weight allowed are as follows: Books and Papers to British Office, 5 lbs.; to the Continent, &c., 4 lbs. Patterns to British Office, 5 lbs. if without intrinsic value; to the Continent, &c., 8 oz.

Indemnity for the Loss of a Registered Letter.

The Post Office is not legally responsible for the safe delivery of Registered correspondence, but it is prepared to make good the contents of such correspondence lost while passing through the Post, to the extent of \$10, in certain cases, provided—

1. That the sender duly observed all the conditions of Registration required.

2. That the letter was securely enclosed in a reasonably strong envelope.

3. That application was made to the Postmaster General of Hongkong immediately the loss was discovered, the envelope being invariably forwarded with such application unless it also is lost.

4. That the Postmaster General is satisfied that the loss occurred whilst the correspondence was in the custody of the British Postal administration in China, that it was not caused by any act on the part of the sender, by destruction by fire, or shipwreck, nor by the dishonesty or negligence of any person not in the employment of the Hongkong Post Office.

5. No compensation can be paid for mere damage to fragile articles such as portraits, watches, handkerchiefs, bound books, &c., which reach their destination, although in a broken or deteriorated condition.

Money Order Regulations.

1. Money Orders are exchanged with the United Kingdom, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Port Darwin, the Straits Settlements, Western Australia, and (except at Shanghai) with